

SAN JOSE PIPINGS

SAN JOSE CHAPTER OF THE AGO

May 2008

www.agosanjose.org



Chapter Officers

Dean: Melanie Cervi (408) 358-6568

melaniecervi@verizon.net

Sub Dean: Andrew Birling (650) 906-3227

andrewbirling@earthlink.net

Auditor: Mike Cala (408) 292-6515 mike.cala@lamrc.com

Budget/Auditor: Darryl Parker

(408) 984-6608 DarrylEParker@comcast.net

Chaplain: Rev. C. Lynn Bailey (408) 297-0993

Johannes48@aol.com

Handbook: Kay Lee (408) 298-3026 kay_lee02@hotmail.com

Education/Resources & Historian: Valerie Sterk (408) 249-5705 vssterk@aol.com

Members at Large:

Melody Bast (408) 541-9016 melodiousone@rediffmail.com John Leslie (408) 356-8499 music@joitventurechurches.com

Diane Keller (408) 773-8771 dpkny@comcast.net

Membership: Carol Griffin (408) 269-3658

(408) 269-3658 cagriffin@prodigy.net

Newsletter: Kenneth Talbot (408) 732-6094

kitalbot@pacbell.net

Issue Deadline: 25th of month

Professional Concerns:

Darryl Parker

Secretary: Theresa Oatman (408) 249-0938

t_oatman@yahoo.com

Substitutes: Richard Coulter (408) 395-0909

Frandick@comcast.net

Treasurer/ Registration: Rebecca Harrison (408) 252-0217

Rebecca-HF@comcast.net

National Executive Director:

James E. Thomashower jet@agohq.org

National AGO President:

Frederick Swann fredswann@aol.com

Region IX Councillor:

Dr. Frances Nobert fnobert99organ@aol.com

Region IX N Coast Convener:

Joyce Rhodes

Joyce.Rhodes@comcast.net

Dean's Message

This month my thoughts have been pulled outside to enjoy the glorious weather. Fingering that section for the left hand will just have to wait a bit......

I do hope you have been able to enjoy Spring. My Mother passed on to me a love for the organ. I was smitten and it's stuck! She also passed on to me a love for nature. We talk often of the birds outside our windows. I'd like to share with her the web cam pictures of the Peregrine Flacons nesting on the City Hall building. She doesn't have access to the web, so I just try to describe it to her. Have you peaked in on the chicks lately?

As organists in Silicon Valley we do not lack opportunities to enjoy music. There are concerts every weekend. Ken always has interesting suggestions in his calendar section. Choosing what to list is seldom easy! After looking over the listings for the Convention in the Twin Cities this June, I decided I needed to make a more conscious effort to seek out concerts in a balanced vein. I found I was listening to the music for church service, my daughter playing her cello, my own practice on the organ and piano (organ is MUCH better), my daughter playing in her steel pan band, the music we rehearse for choir at church, my daughter practicing her drum chops, and the occasional program of music on the Television. I needed balance! So, I've added a time block to my journal of music I listened to each day. Perhaps I'll surprise myself as I look over my entries in a few months.

 S_0 , on to that fingering......

Hope to see you in May for our fun concert, and in June for our Annual Membership Meeting at Kathy Dougherty's house. *Melanie Cervi, Dean* &

Future Chapter Events

18 May, Rescheduled Member's Recital "Never on a Sunday" – Call Andrew Birling to sign up. Calvary United Methodist Church, 729 Morse St, San Jose, **3 PM**

8 June, 4:00 p.m. Annual Meeting/Installation, Kathy Dougherty's home, 19980 Herriman Ave. Saratoga –Pot luck dinner. Contact Andrew Birling or Mary Ann Gee Andrew Birling, Sub Dean. &

Final Slate of Officers for Next Year 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009.

Dean: Melanie Cervi

Sub-Dean: Andrew Birling

Auditor: Darryl Parker

Auditor: Michael Cala Historian: Valerie Sterk

Newsletter Editor: Kenneth Talbot

Members at Larges:

Melody Bast – 2009

Arlene Zimmerman -- 2010

Diane Keller - 2011

Secretary: Theresa Oatman

Treasurer/Registrar:

Rebecca Harrison

"Never on a Sunday" 18 May 2008, Calvary United Methodist Church

729 Morse St, San Jose, 3 PM

Do you have your selection ready for the Member's Recital on Sunday, May 18th? It's not too late to sign-up! Dig out something you don't get to play too often because it might not be appropriate for worship (or too long for worship) and play for our "Never on a Sunday" Member's Recital. It will be held at held at Calvary United Methodist Church, San Jose at 3:00 pm on May 18. Please contact Andrew Birling at 408-378-3472 x15 or andrewbirling@earthlink.net and let him know you are interested!!

Andrew Birling.

There are only a few slots left – therefore, quickly call Andrew or send him an Email to sign up.

UP COMING CHAPTER EVENTS

- 18 May, 3:00 p.m. Rescheduled Member's Recital "Never on a Sunday"— Call Andrew Birling to sign up. Calvary United Methodist Church, 729 Morse St, San Jose, 3 PM. Sign up now, operators are standing by.
- 8 June, 4:00 p.m. Annual Meeting/Installation, Kathy Dougherty's home, 19980 Herriman Ave. Saratoga – Date Change, Pot luck dinner. Contact Andrew Birling or Mary Ann Gee.
- 21 Sept, Gail Archer, Composition Contest Concert and t Date Change, Pot luck dinner.
 Contact Andrew Birling or Mary Ann Gee.

Board Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 13th, 2007 at 7:30 PM in the **Lutheran Church of Our Savior, 5825 Bollinger Road, Cupertino**. All meetings are open. &

DUES ARE DUE FOR NEXT YEAR

Enclosed is the Dues Sheet. Please fill it out and enclose a check and mail it to **Rebecca R. Harrison**,

Treasurer/Registrar

10536 Davison Avenue, Cupertino CA 95014

If you do not pay your dues by 30 June, you may miss some the TAO issues. &

For Sale

For sale: used adjustable organ bench with backrest. Oak seat with black legs. \$150 or best offer.

Please contact Paul Rosas, 408-482-0517. &

CHAPTER ANNUAL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AND INSTALLATION

8 JUNE, 2008, 6 PM Kathy Dougherty's Home 19980 Herriman Avenue, Saratoga

It's time for our Chapter Annual Meeting. If you cannot name anyone serving on the Executive Committee, name any project your dues have funded (local or across the country), name any program you would like to see repeated; be at Kathy Dougherty's Home, 19980 Herriman Ave., Saratoga at 4 PM. We will be conducting the only General Membership Business meeting of the year that afternoon. We will install next year's Executive Board. So come enjoy good food, lovely music, and fun fellowship.

This year we will have a Potluck Dinner. Please contact either Mary Ann Gee (408) 259-8923 or Andrew Birling (650) 906-3227.

Open Positions

All Saints Episcopal Church, Palo Alto seeking a music director with strong organ performance skills and experience in professional musical direction of volunteer choirs and instrumentalists, experienced in liturgies and sacred repertoire, Episcopal preferred. Two Sunday services weekly; and Thursday choir rehearsal September - June. Opportunities to develop children's program and expand concert series. 1969 22 rank Flentrop organ. Salary \$35,000 – \$50,000, based on experience. For more information, contact musicsearch@asaints.org

Cambrian Park United Methodist Church is seeking a music director who can also play piano and has experience working with church choirs and/or vocal ensembles. Leads weekly rehearsal night and Sunday worship, few extra services during the two high Holy Seasons, plans worship music with the Pastor and other worship leaders. Needs strong professional ethics and good people and communication skills with a warm and encouraging attitude for people with all skill levels. Part-time (1/3 time) year-round with four weeks. No health benefits. Normal paid vacation accrues to four weeks per year. Salary is 15K/year. Contact: Pastor Charlotte Bear at pastorcbear@aol.com

What Did Bach Look Like? From Lothar Banermann

On the first picture below is an eighteenth-century portrait showing him as an old man in a wig. It is a stylized image, probably not realistic, according to Joerg Hansen, managing director of the Bachhaus museum in Eisenach, Bach's birthplace in eastern Germany. Bach's bones were excavated in 1894 and sculptors first used them to help create a bust in 1908. But the bust was mainly based on a portrait of the composer, and contemporary critics said it was so inaccurate that it might as well have been the composer Handel. Now, using his bones and computer modeling, Scottish forensic anthropologist Caroline Wilkinson has created the image shown below showing a thick-set man with closely-shorn white hair. "He was a very dynamic man – and with this reconstruction you can see that," said Wilkinson. "We know he was physical: he danced, stamped his feet when he played, and sang." He also was married twice and many children.





Composition Contest

The American Guild of Organists, San Jose Chapter and The Campbell United Methodist Church announce a COMPOSITION CONTEST for A New Work for Organ Based On An American Hymn Tune in celebration of the San Jose Chapter's 85th Anniversary in 2008, and the 15th Anniversary of the 3-Manual, 48-rank Schantz organ at Campbell United Methodist Church.

A Prize of \$500 will be awarded the winning piece, which will be premiered by Dr. Gail Archer (Manhattan School of Music) at the SJAGO/Campbell United Methodist Church joint event on September 21, 2008.

- Composers of any age are eligible.
- Entry is limited to one unpublished composition per composer.
- Performance time shall be 3 ½ to 5 minutes and must be printed under the title of the piece.

- The piece shall be based on an American hymn-tune. If it is a tune held under copyright, the composer will be responsible for obtaining permission to use any copyrighted material.
- The piece should be of medium difficulty, accessible to most organists with moderate practice.
- The submitted manuscript must be of professional quality and legibility.
- DO NOT PUT YOUR NAME OR ANY DEDICATIONS ON THE MANUSCRIPT ITSELF. The composition will be coded for identification by the composition committees of CUMC and SJAGO.
- Four (4) copies of the work must be submitted with the completed and signed entry form.
- Compositions and entry forms must be postmarked by June 15, 2008.
- If, in the opinion of the jury, no composition merits an award of this stature, no prize will be made. Anonymity of the entrants will be maintained throughout the competition.
- Any winner will be notified and the award made by September 1, 2008.

Compositions and entry forms must be postmarked by June 15, 2008. Hurry, time is running out. See the center sheet in the March Newsletter for details

2008 AGO National Convention Minneapolis & St. Paul, Minnesota, *June 22-26*

- 1. An evening concert, choral matins, and evensong with the St. Paul's Cathedral Choir of London.
- 2. Attend a presentation of **Pipedreams Live!** hosted by American Public Media's **Michael Barone**. This will mark the official start of the International Year of the Organ.
- 3. Major new works from internationally renowned composers.
- 4. Great instruments including organs by Dobson, Casavant, Fisk, Blackington, Lively-Fulcher, and Schantz among many others.
- 5. More than 60 diverse workshops including a special pedagogy track focusing on the organ music of Olivier Messiaen and a gala evening concert of Messiaen's instrumental music at Orchestra Hall.

The convention headquarters hotel, The Hilton Minneapolis, is an elegant facility with high-speed wireless internet in all rooms. The convention room rate is \$138 per night. For reservations call 888-933-5353 or use the link on the convention Web site.

Register now at http://www.ago2008.org/, make sure you don't miss this important AGO event of the biennium.

Porcelain Organ in Meissener Germany

The Creation of Porcelain Pipes

In 1950, the porcelain designer **Ludwig Zepner**, art director for the development department at the Meissener manufactory, discovered on the loft of the manufactory, pieces of organ porcelain pipes. They turned out to be relicts of dismissed experiments from Kaendler in 1730 and Boerner in 1920, who tried to build porcelain pipes. Developing the porcelain pipe, the challenging experiment for the voicer was to determine the position of the lips of the pipe accurately, in order to enable the wind flow to set the air in the pipe corpus in vibration. Zepner developed the porcelain process by creating an appropriate ceramic style, which controls the dwindle of the porcelain mixture during the drying and firing process, and which prevents any deformation of the pipe. For the first time in history, the Porzellan-Manufaktur Meissen and the Jehmlich Orgelbau Dresden, managed to bring the acoustical requirements of the pipe into line with the technological features of porcelain. They achieved a new, longed for connection between procelain and music.

ORGAN CONCERTS Every Friday (May-October at 5:30 p.m. and November-April at 4:30 p.m.), concerts are given on the world's only **porcelain pipe organ.**

Builder: Jehmlich Orgelbau Dresden / Staatliche Porzellan-Manufaktur Meissen , 2000 (opus 1140)

Key action: mechanical **Stop action:** mechanical

Slider chest, Divided slider at a0/b0

Compass: C bis g3

Adjustable frequency: 415Hz / 440Hz / 465Hz

Specifications:

Gedackt 8' Rohrflöte 4' Porzellanflöte 2' Quinte 1 1/3'





http://www.jehmlichorgelbau.de/englisch/organs/organ_1140.htm

AGO NATIONAL ELECTION

PLEASE EXERCISE YOUR RIGHT AND PRIVILEGE TO VOTE!

- 1. By mail: Fill out and mail the ballot between pages 56 and 57 of the April issue of The American Organist.
- 2. Online: Go to (Tip: If you enter https, you will probably be routed to the incorrect site.) http://www.intelliscaninc.net/organists

Your membership number is on the left, above your name on the address label of the magazine.

Reger Festival Planned for the Fall **Scott Lillard**

This September and October will offer seven opportunities to immerse oneself in the complex dreamland that is inhabited by the organ works of **Max Reger**. The **Bay Area Max Reger Festival** will include five concerts on consecutive Sundays at St. Mary's Cathedral in San Francisco, beginning on September 14. Two additional concerts will be held at the First Presbyterian Church of Oakland and Trinity Episcopal Church in Reno.

The Sunday concerts on Sept. 14 and Oct. 5 will be given by **David Hatt**, Assistant Cathedral Organist of St. Mary's. The concerts on Sept. 21 and 28 will be given by **Isabelle Demers**, a recent graduate of the Juilliard School and student of Paul Jacobs. The series finale on Oct. 12 will be given by **Richard Gehrke**, organist/choirmaster of the

Johanniskirke in Bielefeld, Germany and brother of local favorite **Rodney Gehrke**.

The IV/84 Ruffatti at St. Mary's Cathedral is wellequipped to handle the large works of Reger, with four full divisions plus pedal, the Positiv division frequently being used as a floating division in reinforcement of the others.

A complete list of the repertoire and schedule of concerts will be published in the September Newsletter, but brief highlights include the complete Chorale Fantasias performed by Ms. Demers, the complete Op. 63 Monologues by Mr. Hatt and the Op. 145 Seven Pieces by Herr Gehrke.

Locations: St. Mary's Cathedral, San Francisco, Trinity Episcopal Church, Reno, and First Presbyterian Church, Oakland

14 Sep, David Hatt Op. 127 Introduction, Passacaglia and Fugue

21 Sep, Isabelle Demers Op. 27, 30, 40 Chorale Fantasias

26 Sep, Isabelle Demers, Reno – 12 noon

28 Sep, Isabelle Demers, Op. 52 Chorale Fantasias

5 Oct, David Hatt , Op. 63 Monologues

8 Oct, David Hatt , Oakland – 12 noon

12 Oct, Richard Gehrke, Op. 145 Seven Pieces, Variations and Fugue on "Heil dir im Siegerkranz"

Notice

I am Robert Farrell. I'm a retired music educator, organist, composer, and choir director. Currently, I am collecting e-mail addresses of willing organists who would like to receive one of my preludes each month completely free of any charge or obligation. I simply wish my music to be performed, especially during worship. To date, I have over 100 organists all over the country who are pleased to receive my "Prelude of the Month." I hope you will consider joining my list for a "free" monthly musical gift. I simply ask that you give me the due credit as the composer if the prelude is performed. Also, feel free to share my work with any of your colleagues. Several of my 30 preludes have been published, but all are copyrighted. Yet, you have my permission to copy them and pass them on to friends if you so please. I have a web site where many of my works can be downloaded for free. Please visit www.rfarrell.net/free. If you are interested in receiving a prelude each month, just reply to me with your email address. Then you will be included in future mailings. The mass email will come via BCC so as not to reveal your address to others in the group. I hope to make your acquaintance.

The Bamboo Organ

The Las Piñas Bamboo Organ is one of the Philippines' national treasures. It's home is the Parish Church of St Joseph located in Las Piñas City. The organ, the church and the surrounding buildings have been restored to their 19th century state by Architect Francisco "Bobby" Mañosa and associate Ludwig Alvarez, making a trip to the site a popular excursion for Filipinos and foreign visitors alike.

The builder of both the church and its organ was Fr. Diego Cera de la Virgen del Carmen, a monk of Augustinian order of the Recollects. A native of Spain, he served as parish priest in Las Piñas through many endeavors. Historians portray him as a gifted man-natural scientist, chemist, architect, community leader, organist and organ builder.

Having previously built organs in Manila area with some organ stops made of bamboo he chose bamboo for most of this organ, and only the trumpet stops are made of metal. The choice of bamboo was probably both practical and aesthetic- bamboo was abundant and used for hundreds of items, both a practical and an artistic nature.

Fr. Cera began work on the organ in 1816, while the church was still under construction, and the organ was completed in 1824. During Fr. Cera's lifetime, disasters such as earthquakes and typhoons damaged both church and organ and Fr. Cera himself was the organ's first "restorer." Down through the years, natural disasters continued to take their toll; the organ was unplayable for years. Somewhat unexpectedly reassembled early in the 20th century, partial restoration took place from time to time up through World War II.

In recent years, several concerted attempts were made to save the instrument. In 1972, a contract for total restoration was awarded to Johannes Klais Orgelbau KG in Bonn, Germany, and it was shipped there in 1973. While the restoration of the organ was taking place in Germany, a massive project was completed at the church. With the help of the community of Las Piñas and many others in the Manila area, the church grounds were restored to its original state.

The restored organ returned home in March 1975, to a joyous welcome by the people of the Philippines. The joint restoration of church and the organ was a triumph of local and international cooperation. Since them the scene of many concerts and festivals, the Bamboo Organ is described by many international organ masters as one of the finest old organs in the world. Its construction of bamboo is noted as being one of the major factors that gives it a truly unique and lively sound.

At present, the Las Piñas Bamboo Organ is being maintained by Diego Cera Organbuilders, Inc.

http://www.geocities.com/laspinascity/facts/bamboo/bamboo.htm



American Guild of Organists, San Jose Chapter &

CAMPBELL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

2008 Composition Contest

ENTRY FORM

(attach to submitted composition)

NAME		
ADDRESS		
CITY	STATE	ZIP
TELEPHONE (home)	(work)	
E-MAIL		
TITLE OF COMPOSITION APPROXIMATE DURATION (no longer than 5 minutes)		
I certify that the composition submitted with this form is original, that it has not been published in any form, and is not under contract for publication. The information above is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. The composition identified above is hereby submitted for consideration by the judges for the 2008 San Jose Chapter, American Guild of Organists/Campbell United Methodist Church Composition Contest. I understand that should it win, the composition will be premiered at the September 21, 2008 concert by Dr. Gail Archer, and I will be asked to furnish two copies of the score.		
SIGNATURE	DATE _	

ATTACH FOUR (4) PROFESSIONALLY PREPARED COPIES OF THE WORK AND MAIL TO:

Organ Composition Contest Campbell United Methodist Church 1675 Winchester Blvd Campbell CA 95008

Deadline: June 15, 2008

2008 PPP A SMASHING SUCCESS

Pat Milstead and Valerie Sterk, Co-Chairs

On Saturday April 5th, the Chapter hosted a 3 hour **Pedals Pizza and Pipes** at **Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church**. 34 students registered, 26 actually attended, and 24 took the opportunity to play on a 'real' pipe organ. Ages ranged from 7 to 17, and playing levels from 2 to 8-9. Assisting with information presentations and demonstrations were host organist Valerie Sterk, Elisabeth Pintar, Melody Bast, and Diane Keller. Andrew Birling played during the gathering as well as a later demonstration. All presenters answered some interesting questions of the students. Melanie Cervi and Andrew Birling brought pipes for the student's hands-on experience. Lothar Bandermann contributed his packets "About the Pipe Organ," and for another year he graciously contributed copies of his Fun and Funny Organ Music CD. (Lothar also had a funny story to tell about when he played on a pump organ for church services as a young student in Germany and frequently would have the 'pumpers' get distracted or go to sleep, resulting in no sound when he struck the first chords). Libby Codd took care of registration plus doing a zippy demonstration of the reeds on the pedals. Each student was given a packet including a model organ to be assembled (Melanie showed an assembled one), "A Young Person's Guide to the Pipe Organ" (Soderlund), a chapter teacher list, and Lothar's materials. Students chose their favorite organ from three TAO organ covers, and at the end, filled in a questionnaire about the day's instruction. Newletter Editor Kenneth Talbot took a picture of each performer. Valerie picked up the pizza and drinks, set up the social hall and provided cookie bars and carrot stick. The students and families enjoyed visiting with each other and asking further questions over pizza.



Back Row: Matthew B, Brandon Y, Marcus M, Jeffery Y, Elliot F, Erica C, Brandon L, Brian B, Laurie M, Christian L, Madison F, & Abigail L. **Middle Row**: Margarita Z, Helen W, Katie Y, Kevin B, & Sara C. **Front Row**: Esther L, Calvin L, Sam D, Cara B, Hanna L, & Christina L. **Not pictured**: Kirk W.

To Receive this Newsletter by Email, send an Email to kitalbot@pacbell.net. Email Newsletters are in Color.

Music Calendar

Locations

CPLH: Calif. Palace of the Legion of Honor, Lincoln Park, 34th Ave & Clement St., San Francisco

CSMA: Cathedral of St Mary of the Assumption, 1111 Gough St., San Francisco

GC: Grace Cathedral, 1100 California St. San Francisco

ST: Stanford Memorial Church, Stanford Campus

* Chapter Member

Every Saturday & Sunday

Organ, 4 PM, CPLH

May

3 Staurday & 4 Sunday

Jenny Oaks Baker, Violin, Temple Hill Orchestra, Church of Jesus Christ Auditorium, 4780 Lincoln Ave, Oakland, (510) 531-3777, **7:30 PM, Free**

4 Sunday

Margherita Sciddurlo, organ, & Pietro Tagliaferri, soprano saxophone, CSMA, 3:30 PM

Michael Messina & George Emblom, organ & piano, GC, 4 PM Angela Kraft Cross, organ, 15th annual Spring Organ Concert and Ice Cream Social Congregational Church of San Mateo (Tilton and San Mateo Drive), 4 PM, works of Mozart, Schumann, Brahms, Mendelssohn, Widor, and Vierne.

11 Sunday

St. Dominic's Church Choir, Simon Berry, Director, CSMA, 3:30 PM

A Messiaen at 100 Event, Pentecost Mass, Benjamin Bachmann, organ, performed with the Gregorian Chants relevant to the Feast Day, GC, 4 PM

18 Sunday

Christoph Tietze, organ, CSMA, 3:30 PM

A Messiaen at 100 Event, Grande Finale, Jeffery Smith, organ, Christine Pfeiffer, soprano, Kristine Pankonin, piano. GC, 4 PM

22 Thursday & 23 Friday

A Messiaen at 100 Event, Lynn Harrell, cello, complete Bach Cello Suites over two nights. For ticket ordering/information, 866-9205299 or www.sfjazz.org GC, 7:30 PM on Thursday, 8 PM on Friday

25 Sunday

Christoph Tietze, organ, CSMA, 3:30 PM

McNeil Robinson organ, Illustrates the are of improvisation, GC, 4 PM

28 Wednesday

A Messiaen at 100 Event, Bulgarian women's choir "Le Mystere Des Voix Bulgares, "Sacred Space" concert, centuriesold traditional songs with modern arrangements. For ticket ordering/information, 866-920-5299

or www.sfjazz.org GC, 7:30 PM

30 Friday

A Messiaen at 100 Event, Occidental College Glee Club, Dr. Jeffrey Bernstein, director, works by Brahms, Rachmaninoff, Bruckner, William Byrd, Morten Lauridsen and others For ticket ordering/information, 866-920-5299 or www.sfjazz.org GC, 7:30 PM

American Guild of Organists

San Jose Chapter

582 Dublin Way, Sunnyvale, CA 94087



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

FIRST CLASS